

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

COUNTRY	North Korea	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Medical Training and Education in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	15 November 1955
		NO. OF PAGES	3
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1
DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEVALUATED Information	

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

Training

1. Students are admitted to medical colleges in North Korea after having completed six years of middle school. The curriculum at most medical colleges consists of a five-year course of study and training, but "junior" medical colleges give a three-year course. After graduation from the shorter course, student doctors are required to practice for three years before they become eligible for examination for their doctors' degrees.¹ Nurses' training schools, offering a two-year course of study, admit students who have completed at least three years of high school. Persons who desire training in the allied medical professions such as nursing and technology must have a recommendation from the Korean Labor Party (KLP). Technicians usually receive on-the-job training. Fields and areas of specialized study are determined by the KLP, the students having no choice in the matter. 25X1
2. As of March 1955 there were approximately 1,500 medical students in North Korea. About 200 persons were studying pharmacology and another 200 were specializing in surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics and other fields. Approximately 100 students have received medical and scientific training in the USSR; 30 students are presently receiving training of this kind. Students' expenses for study abroad are borne by the government.

Medical Schools²3. P'yongyang Medical College³

Student enrollment at the P'yongyang Medical College totals about 900. Approximately 200 students are graduated annually. In addition to the regular five-year course, this school offers a four-year course in pharmacology and sanitation and a military medical course consisting of the following subjects:

- a. Principles of Marxism
- b. Fighting History of the Korean Labor Party

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC					
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--

25X1

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 2 -

25X1

- c. Anatomy
- d. Histology
- e. Chemistry
- f. Physiology
- g. Pharmacology
- h. Pathology
- i. Bacteriology
- j. Hygiene
- k. Epidemiology

In addition to the outlined course of study,⁴ the military medical course includes brief generalized studies in surgical techniques, internal medicine, obstetrics, pediatrics, gynecology, opthalmology, neurology, psychiatry, dermatology, syphilology, communicable diseases and medical jurisprudence.

4. A staff of approximately 100 persons administers the military medical course. The staff includes a dean, an administrative chief, a superintendent of the hospital, three chiefs of each department, a chief professor for each of the 30 subjects taught, deputy professors for each subject taught, "top teachers" (sic), assistant professors and several assistants.

25X1

25X1

5. Hamhung Medical College

The Hamhung Medical College has a student enrollment of about 500 and graduates approximately 100 students annually. Entrance prerequisites include five years of high school education.

25X1

25X1

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

- 3 -

25X1

Junior Medical Colleges

6. There are four junior medical colleges in North Korea, in the cities of Sinuiju, P'yongyang, Haeju and Ch'ongjin. Each of these schools has a student enrollment of about 300 and graduates about 100 students yearly. As the course at these colleges is only of three years duration, graduates must practice for a period of three years before they become eligible for the examination leading to the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Textbooks and Libraries

7. Textbooks are printed in Russian, English and Japanese. The Ministry of Health publishes a monthly medical journal containing articles on medical advances made in the Soviet Union. About 15 monthly medical periodicals printed in the Soviet Union are available at a cost of 300 won yearly. There are no medical libraries other than those affiliated with the medical schools. These libraries are well-stocked with Soviet textbooks and journals.
8. There is one veterinary school in North Korea, at Wonsan, which is operated independently of any agricultural college. The school offers a three-year course of study and persons attending must be graduates of middle school.

25X1

1. Comment. [redacted] doctors in North Korea are not required to have a formal education in order to be certified, although they must pass a government examination. [redacted] many doctors in village sanitary offices do not have the confidence of the people because they have had only six months' training.

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

2. Comment. [redacted] in June 1955 there were four medical colleges in North Korea, two of them being three-year schools and two being five-year schools. adding that the finest was P'yongyang Medical College. [redacted] in August 1955 there was a medical college in Sariwon in a three-story building at YC395654.

25X1

25X1

25X1

3. Comment. [redacted] P'yongyang medical University was at YD376208, South District, and had been known as P'yongyang Medical College [redacted] In May 1954 the former Provincial Hospital in P'yongyang was being operated by the university.

25X1

25X1

25X1

4.

5.

6.

7.

C O N F I D E N T I A L